

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

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SS-20 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8499

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USCINCEUR

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GW, MILI

SUBJECT: FRG PRESS SPOKESMAN CONFIRMS POSTPONEMENT OF
SCHLESINGER VISIT

1. IN GOVERNMENT PRESS CONFERENCE NOV 2, THE DEFENSE MINISTRY SPOKESMAN, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, STATED THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER POSTPONED HIS VISIT TO THE FRG. THE FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF THE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT: "IT IS CORRECT THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER CANNOT VISIT THE FRG. I SHOULD ALSO SAY THAT MINISTER LEBER, AT THE TIME OF HIS VISIT IN WASHINGTON JULY 17, INVITED HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUE TO VISIT THE FRG. MR. SCHLESINGER HAD INTENDED TO MAKE THIS VISIT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP, NOV 6-7. TODAY THE AMERICAN SECRETARY SENT A PERSONAL LETTER TO MINISTER LEBER STATING THAT HE MUST UNFORTUNATELY POSTPONE THE VISIT, BECAUSE THE PRESENT SITUATION DOES NOT ALLOW BOTH THE SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE TO BE OUT OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE SAME TIME. THE SECRETARY OF STATE LEAVES THIS WEEKEND FOR A TRIP TO THE NEAR AND FAR EAST. THIS WAS NOT FORESEEN AT THE TIME THE US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ACCEPTED THE INVITATION TO VISIT THE FRG. MR. SCHLESINGER WISHES TO MAKE THE VISIT AS

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SOON AS POSSIBLE. MINISTER LEBER AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WILL

MEET DURING THE NPG MEETING NEXT WEEK IN THE HAGUE FOR A
DETAILED TALK."

2. TO FURTHER QUESTIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SUBJECT OF THE
SCHLESINGER-LEBER TALK WOULD BE NPG SUBJECTS AND GENERAL
SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO BOTH COUNTRIES, AND THAT THE GERMAN-
AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP WOULD CERTAINLY BE DISCUSSED.
HILLENBRAND

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